

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) 77 ROME 21146, (B) 77 STATE 284233

1. DI MUCCIO (MFA) TOLD EMBOFF GOI INTERAGENCY MEETINGS WERE TAKING PLACE ON JAN. 11 AND 12 IN PREPARATION FOR FORTHCOMING ITALY-U.S. CONSULTATIONS. HE SAID HE WISHED TO REVIEW SITUATION WITH EMBOFF TO ENSURE THAT USG AND GOI AGREED ON ESSENTIAL FACTS IN THAT SITUATION. HE RECALLED THAT USG HAD REQUESTED THAT CHARTER OPERATIONS BE COVERED IN ART. 11 NEGOTIATIONS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED BY GOI AND THAT GOI HAD RESPONDED BY NOTE ON DEC. 23 (SEE REF A). HE SAID GOI HAD NOT RECEIVED A RESPONSE TO ITS NOTE AND THAT BALL REMAINED IN U.S. COURT. DI MUCCIO INDICATED THAT ITALIAN SIDE IS NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT ART. 11 NEGOTIATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AS EMBASSY'S NOTE (SEE REF B) APPEARS TO CONDITION CONTINUATION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON INCLUSION OF CHARTER OPERATIONS.

2. DI MUCCIO AGAIN MADE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT GOI EXPECTS TO SEND DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON, IN ANY CASE, FOR AIR FARES CONSULTATIONS AND EX POST CONSULTATIONS ON SUMMER SEASON, TO BOTH OF WHICH U.S. HAD AGREED. HE
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NOTED THAT WHILE IT WAS CONCEIVABLE THAT EX POST CONSULTATIONS MIGHT BE FURTHER POSTPONED (THOUGH THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN HELD BY DEC. 31), AIR FARES CONSULTATIONS SHOULD DEFINITELY BE HELD AT LEAST BY JAN. 23 BECAUSE U.S. HAD INDICATED IT WOULD SUSPEND ALITALIA'S FARES BY THE END OF 60 DAY PERIOD WHICH, HE SAID, FALLS ON JAN. 19.

3. DI MUCCIO AGAIN OBSERVED (SEE REF A) THAT GOI HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY PROPOSED LANGUAGE FROM U.S. ON ANY OF MATTERS PROMISED DURING NOVEMBER NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING PROPOSED LANGUAGE ON CHARTER MATTERS, NOTING THAT LITTLE TIME WAS LEFT BEFORE JAN. 23.

4. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE GOI, DESPITE STRONGLY NEGATIVE POSITION REPORTED IN REF A, WOULD STILL ACCEPT "SEPARATE AND UNEQUAL" TALKS ON CHARTERS. DI MUCCIO'S STATEMENT THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THERE WOULD BE TWO NEGOTIATIONS OR FOUR ON JAN. 23 INDICATES READINESS TO ACCEPT SUCH SEPARATE TALKS. U.S. SIDE SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER WE CAN GO ALONG WITH SEPARATE TALKS FOR THE TIME BEING WHILE RESERVING POSTION THAT WHEN REVISED AGREEMENT READY TO BE REASSEMBLED, WE WILL EXPECT CHARTERS TO BE COVERED.
HOLMES

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Message Attributes

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